

OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2003/08/08 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100030001-4

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CLASSIFICATION

CIA/OEI

/WHIZ

74 0301

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIP/1855

SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR MCHANIS

STATE DCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRM, DMCC//ATTENTION

CIA REP: TREASURY DEPT//INFO FOR MR JOHN YEO

FLD
51

ITEM NO: 1

DATE: 1 MARCH 74

DIA REVIEW
COMPLETED

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA

REF:

PRIME MINISTER ENBALKATCHEN IS PICKING UP THE REINS OF
 GOVERNMENT AND ATTEMPTING TO CALM THE SITUATION. HE SCORED
 HIS FIRST SUCCESS TODAY WHEN HE NEGOTIATED THE RELEASE OF
 FORMER MINISTERS WHO WERE BEING DETAINED BY THE ARMY.
 ENBALKATCHEN HAS ADOPTED A CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE TOWARD DIS-
 SIDENT TROOPS. HE PROMISED TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION TALENT,
 YOUTH, AND EXPERIENCE IN APPOINTING A CABINET AND TO "LIVE UP
 TO EXPECTATIONS OF THE PEOPLE."

DATE:
 ORIG:
 UNIT:
 EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

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DATE-TIME GROUP					CITE		MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER		

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	3		6		9		12	

THE DISSIDENTS STILL HAVE CANDIDATES THEY WOULD PREFER AS
PRIME MINISTER, BUT THERE IS NO FIRM EVIDENCE THEY HAVE DECIDED
TO REJECT ENDALKATCHEN OUTRIGHT.

ENDALKATCHEN'S POSITION WILL BECOME CLEARER AFTER MEETING
BETWEEN HAILE SELASSIE AND DISSIDENT LEADERS SCHEDULED FOR
LATER TODAY.

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TENSIONS HAVE LESSENED CONSIDERABLY IN ADDIS ABABA. THE US DEFENSE ATTACHE REPORTS TROOPS ARE NO LONGER MAINTAINING ROADBLOCKS AND LARGE TROOP MOVEMENTS WITHIN THE CITY HAVE ENDED. THE EVENTS OF THE PAST FEW DAYS HAVE SET IN MOTION FORCES THAT WILL ULTIMATELY INTRODUCE A NEW POLITICAL ERA IN ETHIOPIA. THE EMPEROR IS UNLIKELY TO REGAIN HIS SUPREME AUTHORITY, ALTHOUGH HE WILL CONTINUE TO BE PERCEIVED. THE TREND OF EVENTS PROBABLY WILL PLACE HIM MORE AND MORE IN THE POSITION OF A FIGUREHEAD LEADER. THE EMPEROR MAY RESIST THIS, AND IN SO DOING MAY FIND HIMSELF IN CONFLICT NOT ONLY WITH THE REFORMISTS BUT ALSO WITH SOME POWERFUL NOBLES WHO RECOGNIZE THAT THEIR OWN POSITIONS WILL BE JEOPARDIZED IF THE PRESSURES FOR CHANGE ARE IGNORED. RESPECT FOR THE MONARCHY AS AN INSTITUTION AND THE INFLUENCE OF OTHER TRADITIONAL INSTITUTIONS--THE CHURCH, FAMILIAR AND TRIBE--WILL FOR SOME TIME CHECK A POSSIBLE DRIFT TOWARD RADICAL MEASURES. E-2 IMPDET.

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